GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2890
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2002
SMUGGLING OF HASHISH
ABUL HASNAT KHAN

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the Delhi is becoming a big market and base for drugs smuggling;

(b) if so, the amount of Nepalese hashish seized during the last three years and in the last six months;

(c) the routes through which the hashish is smuggled into Delhi and other parts of the country; and

(d) the concrete steps proposed to be taken to control the drug smuggling?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTERY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN)

(a) : The seizure reports received from various Drug LawEnforcement Agencies do not indicate a significant increase in drug trafficking and sale of drugs in and through Delhi.

(b) : The details of Nepalese hashish seized in Delhi, asreported by the various Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, during 1999, 2000 and 2001 is 2.49 kg., 150.26 kg. and 4 kg. respectively. During the last six months, ending June 2002, there has been no seizure of Nepalese hashish.

(c) : Hashish produced in Nepal is trafficked into Indiaacross the land borders in the States of Uttar Pradesh and Biharfrom where it is further transported to centres such as Delhi and Mumbai.

(d) : The Government has taken a number of steps to put aneffective check on drug trafficking. These include instructions to all drug enforcement agencies to maintain utmost vigil and step up the enforcement efforts, training of the enforcement officers, close interaction between the agencies of the Centre and the State Governments, neutralizing drug syndicatesby coordinated action, modernization and upgradation of the police and security forces, fencing and flood lighting of the Indo-Pakborder, vesting of powers in the Border Security Force and theCoast Guards under the Customs Act to interdict narcoticdrugs, notifying certain precursor chemicals, viz., Acetic Anhydride, Ephedrine, etc., as `Controlled Substances` underthe Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, quarterly coordination meetings of the Narcotics Control Bureau with all Central and State Agencies concerned, holding of periodic bilateral meetings of the Indian and Pakistani Anti-Narcotics Agencies, etc.